GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3669
ANSWERED ON:18.08.2005
AIR STATIONS/DD KENDRAS IN WEST BENGAL
Mandal Shri Sanat Kumar

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of AIR stations / DD Kendras functioning in West Bengal;

(b) whether any proposal of digitalization of these Kendras is under consideration of the Government;

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be completed; and

(d) the amount sanctioned by the Government for this purpose?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) : Prasar Bharati has informed that currently, six A.I.R. stations and three Doordarshan Kendras are functioning in West Bengal.

(b) to (d) : Yes, Sir. Digitalization of Kendras for improving performance is an on-going process. In West Bengal (W.B.), while A.I.R. production facilities in two locations, namely, Murshidabad and Siliguri, are fully digitalized, radio stations at Kolkata and Kurseong, are partly digitalised. All stations in W. B. are expected to be digitalised by 2006-07.

Doordarshan Kendra (DDK) at Kolkata has already been fully digitalised. DDK at Jalpaiguri is expected to be digitalised partially by 2006 at an estimated cost of Rs. 17 crore for both. Digitalisation of DDK at Shantiniketan would depend upon future availability of resources.